2006, seeking to exempt light weight coated (LWC) paper, weighing up to 70 g/m^2, imported by actual users for printing of magazines, from additional duty of customs of 4% under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962, together with an Explanatory Memorandum on the Notification. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4618/06]

MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA

The Government Securities Bill, 2006

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Government Securities Bill, 2006, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 7th August, 2006.

Sir, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Need to enhance the minimum support price of Paddy for the current season

श्री तरलोचन सिंह (हरियाणा): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपका आभारी हूं, कि आज दोबारा आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया है। पिछले हफ्ते मैंने इस हाउस में किसानों की सबसे बड़ी तकलीफ को जाहिर किया था कि पैडी का सरकार की तरफ से जो मिनिमम सपोर्ट प्राइज़ एनाउंस किया गया है, वह बहुत कम है। सरकार ने उसमें केवल दस रुपये ही बढ़ाए हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

एक माननीय सदस्य: बहुत ही कम ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप बैठ जाइए, वह बोल रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री तरलोचन सिंह : महोदय मुझे इस बात की खुशी है कि हाउस की सभी पार्टियों के लोगों ने इस बात पर सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित किया था कि सरकार किसानों की तकलीफ सुने और उस पर कार्यवाही करे।

माननीय उपसभापति जी, आज तकरीबन 15 एमपीज़ एवं पंजाब, हरियाणा के 45 एमएलएज़ महात्मा गांधी जी के बुत के पास यह कहने के लिए बैठे हुए हैं कि सरकार ने अभी तक इस मसले में कुछ भी नहीं किया है। उनकी यह मांग है कि प्रधान मंत्री जी या मिनिस्टर इंचार्ज कुछ न कुछ एनाउंस करें।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से इस हाउस में यह आवाज़ सरकार के कानों तक पहुंचाना चाहता हुं कि वह किसानों की तकलीफ को सुने क्योंकि किसानों से मिलकर ही आम आदमी बनता है और इन्हीं किसानों के ऊपर पूरे देश की अर्थव्यवस्था निर्भर करती है। यदि हम उन्हें ही उचित मूल्य नहीं दे रहे हैं तो फिर हमारी बाकी जितनी भी पॉलिसीज़ हैं, उनका क्या अर्थ है? मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आपने मुझे अपनी बात कहने का मौका दिया ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज (मध्य प्रदेश): सर, हम इनका समर्थन करते हैं। ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the views expressed by him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with this issue... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA (Jharkhand): Sir, I associated myself with this matter ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government should respond to it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

डा॰ मुरली मनोहर जोशी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, जो इन्होंने कहा, हम उसका समर्थन करते हैं।

श्रीमती वृंदा कारत : सर, हम इनका सर्मथन करते हैं।

श्री उपसभापति : आप एसोसिएट कीजिए ...(**व्यवधान**)... All right. All are associating ...(*Interruptions*)...The whole House associates itself with it ...(*Interruptions*)...Okay. All are associating with this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with this matter. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री एस॰एस॰ अहलुवालिया (झारखंड) : पचास रुपये हैं ...(**व्यवधान**)... 10 पैसे प्रति किलोग्राम बढ़ाया जा रहा है ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप सभी ऐसोसिएट कीजिए, उन्होंने ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Sir, we would give a notice. We want to have a discussion on this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, we want to have a discussion on this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

डा॰ मुरली मनोहर जोशी: सर, यह सवाल देश की फूड सेक्योरिटी से संबंधित है, अगर यह इस तरह से नहीं हुआ तो एक तरफ पीडीएस पर बहुत गलत असर पड़ेगा और दूसरी तरफ देश की फूड सेक्योरिटी पर बहुत गलत असर पड़ेगा, इसलिए यह मांग बिल्कुल जायज़ है और सरकार को जल्दी से जल्दी ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): We are going to have a discussion on this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All of you are associating yourselves with this. Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, we take up the Flood Situation. Mr. Venkaiah Naidu. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Venkaiah Naidu. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, this is a very important issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government should respond to it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I cannot ask them to immediately respond. ...*(Interruptions)*... They have taken note of it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, for wheat procurement, we always hear the same story. ...*(Interruptions)*... सर, उन्होंने तीन हफ्ते बाद पचास रुपये कर दिया और सभी मल्टीनेशनल कंपनीज़, बिग ट्रेडर्स ने ...(व्यवधान)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, the notice is given that the Members will raise it during the Zero Hour. The Government is aware of it. There is nothing which happens, in this House, of which the Government is not aware. Then, why is the Government not responding to it? It is an important thing. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The rule does not permit that the Government should respond to it immediately. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, the Government is insulting the farmers. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: He should have responded to the issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Venkaiah Naidu. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Venkaiah Naidu. ...*(Interruptions)*... The rule doesn't say that the Government should respond immediately. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Sir, we have given a notice.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have made Zero Hour mention. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI N. JOTHI (Tamil Nadu): Sir, a man is getting. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, it is not only to mention it but also to solve the problem we are raising it. *(Interruptions)*... It is not just for mentioning and seeing our names printed. *(Interruptions)*... We are not satisfied. *(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति: आप बैठिए, आप बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Sir, last week we gave a notice. *(Interruptions)*... The Government should have come out with a statement. *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It has been mentioned. All of you have associated yourselves with it. *(Interruptions)*... The Government has also been informed. *(Interruptions)*... It will respond to it. *(Interruptions)*... Immediately I can't ask the Government to respond to all the Zero Hour mentions. *(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, this concerns 70 per cent population of this country. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANSAMY: We are going to discuss the farmers' issue. *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please take your seats. *(Interruptions)*...

Mr. Venkaiaha Naidu. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Whenever we raise an issue of public importance, they feel. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, seventy per cent of the people of this country are affected by this. *(Interruptions)...*

श्री एस॰ एस॰ अहलुवालिया: पैतीस रुपए से ...(**व्यवधान**) वह कीमत क्यों नहीं दे रहे हैं। ...(**व्यवधान**)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Government is responding. *(Interruptions)...* Now you are not allowing the Government. *(Interruptions)...* The Government wants to respond. *(Interruptions)...* You are not allowing. *(Interruptions)...*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, on behalf of the Government, I very respectfully support all the sentiments that have been expressed on the MSP issue. I share your concerns. I would like to inform you that we had a discussion with the Chair on how to club it. I understand—if my understanding is wrong, I must apologise to you—that the Members are keen to discuss together the entire agriculture scenario and farmers, including MSP. If you feel that MSP should be discussed separately and agriculture should be discussed separately, you advise us, Sir, and we are prepared to cooperate. *(Interruptions)...* The Minister will definitely come, but not today. *(Interruptions)...* Just let me conclude. *(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: They responded to it. They agreed. *(Interruptions)...* Mr. Venkaiah Naidu.

SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI: Murli Manohar Joshiji, you had been in the Government. Let me conclude. *(Interruptions)...*

श्री विक्रम वर्मा (मध्य प्रदेश): क्या सरकार इसको रिवाइज करेगी?...(**व्यवधान**)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him conclude. *(Interruptions)...* Let him conclude. *(Interruptions)...* Mr. Ramachandraiah, please let him conclude. *(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, if they want to do like this... *(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is not the Minister in charge. *(Interruptions)...* What do you want? *(Interruptions)...* Mr. Ahluwalia, I am on my legs. *(Interruptions)...* Please sit down. *(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, through you, I have to convey to the House...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is not the concerned Minister. He is responding. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI: ... that it is the tradition in the House that on behalf of the Government, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs do respond whenever serious issues are taken up. I do give additional importance, more importance, to the issue that you have raised with all respect to you. I equally share your concerns. I must honestly tell you what my problem is. We have decided to have a full-day discussion on these issues, both on MSP and agriculture, in the other House day after tomorrow. Today, since you are. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Are you ready for ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI: Murli Manohar Joshiji, I support your concern. *(Interruptions)*.. Why are you not allowing me to speak? *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: How can he respond? *(Interruptions)*... He said the reasons. *(Interruptions)*... How can he straightaway announce? *(Interruptions)*... How can he announce? *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI: The UPA Government is second to none to defend the interests of farmers than that of the NDA. *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your concern has been noted. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI: ... and we will do so. You decide the time, Sir. If the House agree. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : We will discuss it in the BAC day after tomorrow. *(Interruptions)*... Mr. Venkaiah Naidu. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI : ....the MSP will be discussed separately and the 'agriculture will be discussed separately. We are prepared for that also. *(Interruptions)*... Let the Chair decide the time. *(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I am repeating the same. What we want to know is whether you are ready to revise the prices or not. *(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI: Jaswant Singhji was the Finance Minister for a long time.*(Interruptions)...* Our Finance Ministry is much better than what it was during your tenure.*(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, that matter is over. Mr. Venkaiah Naidu.

Need to provide immediate relief to people affected by floods in States of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Sir, the Minister could have responded immediately.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That subject is over.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: It is also a burning issue. It was raised in the House earlier and a notice was also given. It is not that we have suddenly raised this issue in the zero hour. MSP is a burning issue. Let them take it seriously. Let them fix the price at the earliest. What is required is, not a mere discussion, but a decision with regard to increase in the MSP.

Sir, I am thankful to you for having permitted me to raise another important issue which is agitating the people of this country particularly in the States of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat. A serious situation has arisen due to floods in these parts of the country. In Karnataka, as you are aware, in Belgaum, and in Bhagalkot to Gulbarga, there is a serious situation in this entire area because Maharashtra has released water, which is affecting almost 100 Taluks. Many people have lost their lives. A lot of cattle have also been lost. Many of the thatched and temporary houses have collapsed. Even in Andhra Pradesh, the situation is more serious today. Sixteen districts of the States have been affected by floods. The level of water has increased in the Godavari River and it has reached the dangerous level. It has crossed 60 feet mark. I am told that if it increases further, water